

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3395
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2015
PROBLEMS OF OLDER PERSONS
Singh Shri Hukum

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the population of old and helpless persons has shown a rise in the country during last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, gender and State-wise including Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of Help Age India Report, 2014 regarding domestic violence and neglect suffered by old and helpless people in the country; and
- (d) if so, the salient features of the said report and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) and (b): As per census 2011, the population of Senior Citizens in the country has increased from 7.7 crore (7.5%) in 2001 to 10.38 crore in 2011, which is 8.6 % of the total population. A statement showing State/UT wise details of elderly population (aged 60+) as per census 2011 is at Annexure.

(c) and (d): Help Age India conducted a research on elders abuse in 12 cities across India with a sample size of 100 elder persons per city. As per the Help Age India report across the cities verbal abuse, disrespect and neglect were the major types of abuse faced by the elderly.

Further, elderly do need financial support, medical support and equally emotional support.

Concerned with the instances of domestic violence and neglect of aged, the Government had enacted the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 which, inter-alia, makes maintenance of parents/ senior citizens by children/ relatives obligatory and justifiable through Tribunals; provides for revocation of transfer of property by senior citizens in case of negligence by children/ relatives; penal provisions for abandonment of senior citizens; medical facilities for senior citizens; and protection of life and property of senior citizens.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has also issued two detailed advisories dated 27.3.2008 and 30.8.2013, to all the State Governments/UTs advising them to take immediate measures to ensure safety and security and for elimination of all forms of neglect, abuse and violence against old persons through initiatives such as identification of senior citizens; sensitization of police personnel regarding safety, security of older persons; regular visit of the beat staff; setting up of toll free senior citizen helpline; setting up of senior citizen security cell; verification of domestic helps, drivers etc.